

Product Evaluation

Product ID: 8130-2-3
Initiation Date: Jan 7, 2003
Revision Date: January 13, 2005
Expiry Date:

RE: Review of EnviroBerm Runoff Control System

PRODUCT

The EnviroBerm is a permeable plastic berm designed for erosion and sediment control. They are designed to replace the traditional straw bale ditch berm. The EnviroBerm is developed and distributed by Cascade Geotechnical Inc. (Edmonton).

VENDOR CLAIMS AND INFORMATION

CLAIMS:

The EnviroBerm is a runoff control system that replaces straw bales and rock ditch checks. It is a sediment control that minimizes ponding and maximizes vegetation and growth. It slows channel water flow, changes runoff from turbulent chaotic flow to laminar parallel flow, and enhances sediment drop.

DESCRIPTION:

EnviroBerm is constructed of two panels of high density, extruded UV resistant polyethylene pinned down with M pins in a single row complete with a biodegradable or permanent erosion control matting on the underside.

POTENTIAL USAGE:

Used in road ditches, channels, slopes and construction sites.

STANDARDS:

Cascade Geotechnical has developed installation instructions for the installation of EnviroBerm, erosion control blankets and M anchors.

ALBERTA TRANSPORTATION COMMENTS

EXPERIENCE:

Alberta Transportation has been using this product (and other synthetic barriers) as an alternative for traditional straw bales. In general, some synthetic barriers (including EnviroBerm) have failed after major rainfall events. Regular maintenance such as removal of silt built-up is also required for their success.

APPLICATION STANDARDS:

Standards for the spacing and length of the synthetic barrier generally follow the same design criteria for the traditional straw bales and the Alberta Transportation Erosion and Sedimentation Control Manual (2003), BMP#10. An erosion control matting is required under the EnviroBerm.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

EnviroBerm erosion control system be listed as a Proven Product under Alberta Transportation Product List, Erosion Control Systems, Ditch Blocks/Barriers – Synthetic Permeable Barriers – Proprietary, based on the information provided.

TRIAL PROJECTS

Used extensively along **Highway 43** (Whitecourt to Fox Creek) under various contracts in the last 5 years.

Fred Cheng

cc New Product Evaluation Standing Committee – Terry Willis
Roger Skirrow